

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: AUGUST 6, 2008

DEPARTMENT: NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

DIRECTOR: STEPHEN K. HARSIN

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

Discussion and possible action on the Neighborhood Partners Fund (NPF) Board recommendations to allocate \$55,000 (General Fund) for 18 neighborhood projects - All Wards

Fiscal Impact

☐

No Impact

☐

Augmentation Required

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Budget Funds Available

Amount: \$55,000

Funding Source: General Fund

Dept./Division: Neighborhood Services/Initiatives Division

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

The Neighborhood Partners Fund (NPF) program was established in 1998 and was designed to assist neighborhoods in improving the quality of life for City of Las Vegas residents. This year, the NPF program will fund seven beautification and physical enhancement projects; four safety improvement projects; four cultural and community events; one back-to-school youth event and two multi-generational projects between youth and senior citizens (active adults).

RECOMMENDATION:

The Neighborhood Partners Fund Board recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the funding of 18 neighborhood projects totaling \$55,000 with a community match of \$153,100 in cash, volunteer labor, materials and professional services and authorizes the Director of Neighborhood Services to execute any agreements upon approval as to form by the City Attorney.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Agenda Memo
2. Submitted at meeting - Scripted notes by AJ Powell
3. Submitted after meeting - Executed Neighborhood Partners Funding Agreements
4. Submitted after meeting - Executed Neighborhood Partners Fund Landscape Maintenance Agreement between the City of Las Vegas and Artesian Heights Neighborhood Association

Motion made by GARY REESE to Approve as recommended

Passed For: 7; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, LARRY BROWN, OSCAR B. GOODMAN,
GARY REESE, STEVE WOLFSON, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None);
(Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

Minutes:

STEPHEN HARSIN, Director of Neighborhood Services, outlined the history and purpose of

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this Board. He recognized MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH for her efforts and introduced A.J. POWELL, Vice President of the Board.

MS. POWELL, standing in for CHAIRMAN GERRY GREEN, introduced and thanked the members of the Committee for working on these recommendations.

MS. POWELL listed the 18 projects recommended for funding and asked representatives to stand for recognition. These projects involve neighborhood beautification, events and health/safety/quality of life projects. She recommended approval of all 18 projects.

DONNA and ROY APUZZO, 10482 Rustyville Court, spoke against the alleged beautification project for their community. They voiced their opposition of the project to the Homeowners Association, but felt their comments were ignored. They subsequently filed a complaint with the State. The APPUZZOS stated that the proposed park will draw additional traffic to the area which will adversely impact the value of their home which is located across the street. They stated they were not notified of the proposed park. They urged the Council to deny the project and pointed out that failure to do so could create a liability for the City as a result of additional security issues and violations of the no-parking zone along the common area. The APPUZZOS questioned whether the area provided ADA accessibility.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH said that president of Lone Mountain Vista Community Association was unable to attend. She responded that notification was given by way of a homeowners association newsletter and explained that the issue is strictly a private one between the Association and the APUZZOS. However, staff did confirm that the CC&R's do not prohibit this type of activity in the common areas. In fact, the activities are already ongoing. She showed an aerial map of the community on the overhead. The ADA accessibility is a non-issue because this is a private gated community.

MAYOR GOODMAN added that the Council's only involvement is approval or disapproval of the projects that the Board members worked so hard to review. He thanked and commended the Board members for their efforts on these projects. He suggested the APUZZOS contact their Homeowners Association to resolve their concerns.

ANTHONY BOOKER, President of Whispering Timbers Homeowners Association, 1724 Wendell Williams, outlined the appropriate process for filing a complaint against a homeowners association. Those who serve on a homeowners association board can never please everyone. He suggested this couple run for their board. MAYOR GOODMAN felt it would be inappropriate for City to interfere as it would set a precedent. COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN interjected that the City has no legal authority to overturn the decisions of a private homeowners association. The City is funding a project because there was an application for it.

COUNCILMAN BROWN explained that the use of the common area is under the control of the Association. This is the first time there has been a complaint on a project. He explained to the APUZZOS that the common area may have been a requirement for open space pursuant to City

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code.

MR. APUZZO said the project will increase water usage. COUNCILMAN BROWN said that the community required a certain amount of open space for use. He understood the APUZZOS concerns, but hoped that they would appreciate the efforts of the Neighborhood Partners Fund Board.

COUNCILMAN ROSS recognized and commended the efforts of the Board and refuted MS. APUZZO'S comments that beautiful parks throughout City are not being used.

